

JTA daily news bulletin

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Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency / 165 West 46th Street / New York, N.Y. 10036-2574

Vol. LX - 65th Year

Friday, June 11, 1982

No. III

REAGAN SENDS BEGIN MESSAGE ASKING IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE, ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 10 (JTA) -- With its forces still engaged deep inside Lebanon, Israel faced a new demand from the United States today to end the fighting immediately and withdraw its forces from that country. A message from President Reagan to Premier Menachem Begin -- his third since the Lebanon operation began last Sunday -- was delivered by U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis at 2 a.m. local time, indicating its urgency.

Several hours later it was announced by the Israeli Cabinet that Reagan will send Secretary of State Alexander Haig to the Middle East to deal with the situation personally. But a few hours later in Bonn, White House Counselor Edwin Meese said Haig would not be going to Jerusalem since Philip Habib, Reagan's special envoy, is already in the Middle East. Habib was in Damascus today where he reportedly met with Syrian President Hafez Assad.

Israel Radio's diplomatic correspondent reported that the idea of Haig going to Israel was raised in a telephone conversation: the U.S. official had with Begin. Haig decided not to go to Israel, according to the radio report, because Begin reportedly said he would only discuss a cease-fire with the Syrians and not the Palestine Liberation Organization "as Israel negotiates only with governments."

The contents of Reagan's message were not disclosed nor was the nature of Begin's reply after a 2 1/2 hour meeting with Ambassador Lewis. Reagan reportedly wrote to Begin in the friendliest terms but made it clear that the U.S. wants to settle the Lebanese conflict as quickly as possible.

Administration Not Taking Hard Line

Reagan sent his message from Bonn where he is attending a NATO meeting. Deputy Presidential Press Secretary Larry Speakes would not say what it contained but indicated that it was consistent with the United Nations Security Council resolution demanding a cease-fire and pullback of Israeli forces.

But on a CBS-TV interview in Bonn, Speakes indicated that the Administration was taking anything but a hard line with Israel. "We would hope to end all hostilities there" (Lebanon), he said. He added, however, "We have to remember there has been shelling of Israel as well and what the President has called for is a withdrawal of all the parties that don't belong there, and this would involve, of course, withdrawal by the Israelis but on the basis of a true cease-fire." He appeared to be referring to Syrian forces in Lebanon and possibly the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Speakes also seemed to make it plain that the U.S. does not intend to penalize Israel and that it agrees with Jerusalem's contention that the invasion of Lebanon was a defensive operation. Asked about the possibility of the U.S. holding up weapons deliveries to Israel, the White House spokesman said "I think you could have an argument by the Israeli government that this is defensive in nature, but I think the main emphasis that we have is not on punitive action but really in solving the problem."

Despite the cautious tone of American diplomacy, the cease-fire demand confronted Begin's government with an immediate dilemma. It must decide quickly whether to meet the American call for a cease-fire now and negotiate the terms of its withdrawal from Lebanon afterwards or to insist on negotiating terms for a cease-fire before it ends the fighting.

Soviet Pressure Seen

Israeli analysts suggested that Reagan's latest and most urgent note may have reflected pressure from the Soviet Union. As long as the Soviets saw the Israeli invasion as a limited action with limited objectives to push the PLO out of firing range of northern Israel, they were content with rhetorical denunciations. But when the situation deteriorated into a confrontation between Israel and Syria, culminating with Israel's massive air attacks yesterday on the Soviet-supplied Syrian anti-aircraft missiles in eastern Lebanon, Moscow turned to direct pressure on the U.S.

The Soviet leverage, the Israeli analysts said, derives from the fact that Reagan is scheduled to meet with President Leonid Brezhnev in the next few days and apparently the U.S. would like to see the fighting ended in Lebanon when that meeting takes place.

U.S. officials in Bonn denied that Reagan had personally consulted with the Soviet leader before he sent his latest message to Begin. But Speakes acknowledged that the U.S. has been in contact with the Soviet government and other governments, seeking help to end the fighting in Lebanon. Reagan was also meeting today with the Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal.

The analysts noted further that the American demands for a cease-fire would help establish Haig's position as an "honest broker," acceptable to Israelis and Arabs alike, when he undertakes what is expected to be a new round of shuttle diplomacy in the Middle East.

One question under consideration here is who will be in authority in Lebanon after Israel withdraws. Past experience shows there is no chance for a permanent solution of the long standing Lebanese crisis without the consent of the Syrians -- not because of Syria's military strength, which is considered vastly inferior to Israel's, but because they are the only Arab force in the region strong enough to prevent the return of the PLO to Lebanon.

ISRAEL HITS SYRIAN MISSILES AGAIN

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 10 (JTA) -- Israel conducted a second air raid on Syrian anti-aircraft missile bases in the Bekaa Valley of Eastern Lebanon today. A military spokesman said it was necessary to knock out missile batteries that replaced those Israel claimed to have destroyed in a massive air raid yesterday.

Artillery and tank engagements between Israeli and Syrian forces were reported to have taken place in the Bekaa Valley today.

A military spokesman said Israeli warplanes shot down 20 Syrian MIG fighters in air battles over Lebanon today. According to the spokesman, Syria

has lost 56 fighter planes and three combat helicopters since the fighting in Lebanon began, with no losses to Israel.

He said Israeli ground forces were engaged mainly in consolidating positions and mopping up pockets of Palestinian resistance. He said there were tank and artillery duels in Eastern Lebanon.

The spokesman categorically denied Syrian reports that Israeli planes had bombed Damascus. He said no Israeli aircraft have crossed the Syrian frontier. According to the spokesman, an explosion and fires in a Damascus suburb were caused by the crash of a Syrian warplane, not an Israeli air raid as the Syrians claimed.

But military briefings here have been sparse and short on detail. Army policy apparently is to let the fog of battle obscure the situation from the enemy. Israeli media continues to rely for information on Lebanese sources and foreign correspondents in Lebanon. According to those sources fighting is going on in the suburbs of Beirut and near or along the main Beirut-Damascus highway.

40 Israeli Soldiers Killed

Israeli casualties are released daily and appear in view of the scope of the fighting. According to the military spokesman, Israeli losses total 40 killed, 208 wounded, six missing and one pilot taken prisoner from the time Israel invaded Lebanon at noon Sunday up to noon yesterday, the fourth day of fighting. The bodies of five downed helicopter pilots have been identified.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces which captured Damour, a Palestine Liberation Organization stronghold on the Lebanese coast six miles south of Beirut yesterday, said they were restoring the town to its original Christian inhabitants. Damour, a Christian village, was taken over by the PLO several years ago.

Israeli forces were reportedly conducting a house-to-house search-and-destroy operation in the captured Lebanese coastal town of Sidon where some 1000 Palestinian terrorists are believed to be hiding in the ruins. In Tyre, the first PLO coastal stronghold overrun by Israeli forces, Israel appointed an army major to serve as mayor of the town while arrangements are made for a return to a normal.

Warning To Syria

The army said today that the publicity given the call-up of Israeli reserves and the strengthening of positions on the Golan Heights was a deliberate warning to Syria against any attempt to attack Israel from that quarter.

Meanwhile, a situation has cropped up common to all wartime news coverage. Local and foreign correspondents have protested the army's restriction of their movements in the forward areas. American and European reporters and camera crews flown to the region complained that while Israeli television and radio correspondents could move about at will, they were confined to guided tours of such sites as the Beaufort Castle in southern Lebanon, a PLO stronghold captured by the Israelis early in the campaign and long since out of the fighting.

The army retorted that the Israeli correspondents are in uniform. Some doing their military reserve duty and are providing pool coverage for their non-accredited colleagues.

ARABS AT UN DIVIDED

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, June 10 (JTA) -- Sharp divisions were reported here today between radi-

cal and moderate Arab countries on whether to request an emergency special session of the General Assembly in the wake of the US veto in the Security Council over the Lebanese crisis.

Reliable Arab sources said today that Lebanon is against the convening of an emergency special session because it believes that such a session would not produce the desired result of a cease-fire in Lebanon.

According to these sources, the radical Arab states would pursue the ouster of Israel from the General Assembly for its invasion of Lebanon. But such a move against Israel, the moderate Arabs believe, would only harm the Arabs in the final analysis and would have severe repercussions as far as the United States is concerned. The United States warned a few times in recent months of severe retaliation, such as cutting financial support to the UN, should Israel be suspended or ousted from the General Assembly.

Members of the Arab League are expected to conclude their discussions on whether to request an emergency special session on Lebanon tonight. Should the Arabs decide to go ahead with an emergency special session, they will have to submit a request for such a meeting to the Secretary-General who, in turn, will have to convene the meeting within 24 hours.

U.S. TO EVACUATE NON-AMERICANS FROM LEBANON IF THERE IS ROOM

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, June 10 (JTA) -- The State Department said today the United States will evacuate non-Americans from war-torn Lebanon if requested to do so and if there is room for them.

Alan Romberg, the deputy spokesman said "the principal focus is on Americans but missions can, at their discretion, and assuming space is available, authorize the evacuation of third country nationals from friendly countries and of foreign service national employees."

It was disclosed, meanwhile, that a delegation from the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations was scheduled to meet this afternoon with Vice President George Bush. The Presidents Conference delegation included Julius Berman, chairman-elect; Rabbi Alexander Schindler; Jacob Stein, former adviser on Jewish affairs to the President; and Yehuda Hellman, Presidents Conference executive director.

3 ARABS HELD IN ENVOY'S SHOOTING

LONDON, June 10 (JTA) -- Three Arabs charged with the attempted murder of Israeli Ambassador Shlomo Argov were ordered held without bail by a London magistrate's court today until next Thursday.

The three are Ghassan Hassan Ahmad Said, 23, and Marwan Al-Banna, 21, both Jordanian-born students, and an Iraqi businessman, Nawaf Nagib Miflihel Rosan, 36. Said is also charged with attempting to kill a British policeman.

Argov, 52, who was shot in the head when leaving a London hotel after a dinner for diplomats June 3, is reported to be in stable condition at the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases, but is still unconscious.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- President Yitzhak Navon and several groups of Knesset members visited Galilee Wednesday, on a morale-boosting tour and to observe conditions a week after many towns and settlements in the area were heavily hit by Palestinian rocket and artillery barrages. Navon spent some time at the border town of Kiryat Shemona talking to residents.

JEWIS RELATIVELY UNSCATHED BY FLOODS IN CONNECTICUT

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, June 10 (JTA) -- Homes, business enterprises and institutions of Connecticut Jews escaped relatively unscathed from one of the worst rainstorms and flooding in the state's history last weekend, according to a telephone survey today by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency of conditions in Jewish communities in the hardest hit areas.

Inquiries were directed to Jewish Federation executives in New London, a community of 3,500 Jews; New Haven, which has some 20,000 Jews; Hartford, which has some 23,500 Jews; and Bridgeport, home of some 18,000 Jews.

The Jewish areas hardest hit by the drenching rains and resultant flooding were those served by the Jewish Federation of Eastern Connecticut, headquartered in New London; and that of the Jewish Federation of New Haven.

Eugene Erlander, executive director of the Federation in New London, said Jewish homes and Jewish-owned businesses had been damaged by flooding. He said Jews in East Lyme were completely isolated for a time when a connecting bridge was washed out by the storm. Erlander told the JTA that the Federation was trying to provide help through its Jewish Family Service to individual Jewish families on request, and to provide information to Jewish business owners on effective approaches to the Small Business Administration for help.

Some Homes Flooded

Erlander said a number of Jewish homes had been flooded and considerable damage done to property stored in the basement of a Jewish-owned furniture store in Groton. He said there had been no injuries to Jews -- a report applicable to Jews generally in the flood-hit areas -- and no evacuations of Jewish homes in the area served by the New London-based Federation.

Arthur Spiegel, executive director of the New Haven Federation, reported that many Jewish homes in the New Haven area had been flooded and that a yeshiva had suffered flood damage estimated at \$100,000. He said the New Haven Federation was applying for federal assistance, but that such aid must wait until state officials can certify a statewide damage estimate which may take several days.

Spiegel said that the New Haven Westville suburb, home of a substantial number of Jews, had been severely affected, with many Jewish homes flooded and cars washed away in the torrential rainstorm.

Cleanup Proceeding Briskly

But both Erlander and Spiegel also reported that cleanup efforts were proceeding briskly. No Jews had to be evacuated from flooded homes, the Federation executive directors told the JTA.

Don Cooper, executive director of the Greater Hartford Jewish Federation, said Jews in the area had not been particularly affected. He said the Federation had not received any distress calls from area Jewish families and that, while basements of some Jewish homes had been flooded, evacuations had not been necessary. However, he said, a large brass fabricating factory in Waterbury, owned by a Hartford Jewish family, had been severely flood-damaged.

The United Jewish Council of Greater Bridgeport reported that the area and its Jewish residents had generally escaped flood damage.

EAST, WEST EUROPEANS ATTACK ISRAEL FOR INVADING LEBANON

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, June 10 (JTA) -- Israel was under attack from both the Eastern European Communist bloc and America's Western European allies today for its invasion of Lebanon. The Soviet Union warned Israel that an attack on Syria could have "serious consequences."

The ten European Economic Community (EEC) countries, all of which except Ireland are members of NATO, met in special session in Bonn last night to condemn the Israeli action. They hinted that they would consider economic sanctions against Israel if it did not withdraw its forces from Lebanon.

American sources in Bonn, where President Reagan is attending a conference of the 16 NATO member states, said the President had been in direct contact with Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev but would not confirm that their talk dealt with the Middle East. West Germany's Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher reportedly warned that Western Europe's ties with the Arab world would be irreparably damaged unless there was an immediate end to the fighting in Lebanon.

The Soviet press, radio and television attacks on Israel were the most vituperative. But all of Eastern Europe joined in denouncing Israel's "aggression." President Nicolae Ceausescu of Rumania, the only Communist bloc country that maintains diplomatic relations with Israel, vociferously attacked Israel's "militaristic policy." He was quoted by Rumania's official Ager Press news agency as calling on Israel to accept an immediate cease-fire and pull its forces out of Lebanon at once.

Anti-Israel Demonstration in Paris

A mass demonstration was taking place in Paris this evening protesting Israeli "aggression" with the participation of the Communist Party and several major trade unions. Jewish organizations called for a counter-demonstration outside the Israeli Embassy.

Diplomatic sources said today that Greece and France favor the immediate imposition of sanctions against Israel. West Germany, Holland and Denmark proposed an interim period to give Israel a chance to comply with demands for a cease-fire and withdrawal.

Soviet attacks on Israel seemed intended to deter an attack on Syria which is Moscow's last foothold in the Middle East. Syria and the USSR have a mutual assistance treaty providing for automatic Soviet support if Syria is attacked. The treaty does not cover attacks on Syrian forces in Lebanon which are there within the framework of an Arab League mandate.

NATO experts stressed however that despite the violence of its protests, Moscow seems unable and probably unwilling to extend any assistance to Syria. Some 20 Soviet and East European diplomats and their families left Beirut yesterday in a Turkish cargo ship bound for Iskenderun, Turkey. It was reportedly the last ship to sail from the beleaguered port.

The semi-official Egyptian daily Al Ahram reported today that President Hosni Mubarak has asked President Reagan to intervene in the Lebanese situation. Egyptian diplomats protested against the U.S. veto of a Security Council resolution Tuesday condemning Israel. They are said to have warned Reagan and Secretary of State Alexander Haig that the American veto seriously weakened the peace process in the Middle East. The Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister, Prince Saud Al-Faisal, also appealed to Reagan when the two met in Bonn today to end the fighting in Lebanon.

DOUBLING OF ALIYA FROM U.S. URGED AS PRIORITY ISSUE

By Rachelle Sidel-Wolk

GROSSINGER, NY, June 10 (JTA)--Describing the intermarriage rate in America as a "silent Holocaust," Moshe Shechter, Director of the Israel Aliyah Center of North America, challenged the 225 delegates at the National Convention of the North American Aliyah Movement (NAAM) here last weekend to this year double the number of immigrants to Israel from the organization and the number of chugim (groups of potential olim) in North America.

"From the time a Jew knocks on our door, it takes from six months to two years to bring him from America to Israel," Shechter said. "This doesn't leave us time for promotion, and every NAAM member should be promoting aliya." Shechter added that the Aliyah Center's other plans for promotion include bringing short-term shlichim (emissaries) to America, and placing aliya on the agendas of Jewish Federations throughout the country.

Shechter has requested that Israeli government officials who visit the United States include aliya promotion in their speeches to Jewish audiences. Israel Ambassador Moshe Arens is planning to devote 25 percent of his time to promoting aliya, according to Shechter.

Effort Aimed At Yordim

Another new project of the Aliyah Center is the creation of a special shaliach position in New York City to deal with the problem of yordim, former Israelis now living in America. Shechter said. "This is the first time since 1948 that Israel has officially recognized this problem," he told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. In the past few months, the new program has encouraged several hundred yordim to return to Israel, he said.

Elaine Kopp, president of the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel (AACI), NAAM's sister organization in Israel, described North American aliya as an "antidote to the problem of yordim." She stressed the importance of American olim showing Israelis that Israel has a positive pull for American Jews. "When we make aliya, the infusion of American culture and education strengthens Israel. We can only make a difference from the inside," she said. Kopp made aliya from Oklahoma nine years ago and now administers programs for new olim in the development town of Ma'alot.

Zipporah Liben of New York, national president of NAAM, pointed out in her keynote address that American Jews are not a persecuted people. "Aliya is a change we make willingly," she said. "We leave here because aliya is a commitment that every true Zionist must fulfill. America has been good to us and given us the courage to make our decision and leave. We leave with pride."

Personal Shaliach

Liben called on every NAAM member to reach out to the American Jewish community and act as a personal shaliach to others. "I believe one purpose of NAAM is to heighten the consciousness of the American Jewish community to the need for aliya," she said.

NAAM services some 2500 members in 50 chugim organized into seven regions throughout the United States and Canada. Sylvia Eisen, a

NAAM vice president and convention chairman who is also national aliya chairman for Hadassah, said, the purpose of the convention was to "inspire, support and motivate" those who are committed to aliya.

"The people who want to go to Israel need moral and emotional support, and here they can feel the strength of others who also believe that Eretz Yisrael is where they belong," she said. "In addition, they can get practical information and help with specific problems, from shlichim present at the convention."

The 225 delegates, from as far away as Winnipeg, Canada, ranged in age from the teens to post-retirement. The fact that 40 percent of North American olim are now Orthodox was reflected by a large contingency of young Orthodox Jewish couples, mostly from New York City. The convention bid farewell to 20 members who are leaving shortly on aliya, including Rabbi Moshe Berliner, Executive Director. Liber was reelected president for 1982-83.

JEWS URGED TO PARTICIPATE IN ANTI-NUCLEAR MOVEMENT

By Judith Kohn

NEW YORK, June 10 (JTA) -- Appeals for greater Jewish involvement in the growing movement against nuclear weapons were aired this week by rabbis and lay leaders.

The appeals were made at a two-day conference on the danger of nuclear war, sponsored by the Emet Foundation, a private foundation in Los Angeles dedicated to the advancement of arts, sciences and humanities. Some 140 people attended the conference, which ended Tuesday and which coincided with the opening of the Second United Nations Special Session on Disarmament.

The participants represented a broad spectrum of Jewish denominational affiliations and political views, but appeared to share a sense of urgency regarding the nuclear threat.

Rabbi Irving Greenberg, executive director of the National Jewish Resource Center, which includes a center for Holocaust research, said in an address to the group that the post-Holocaust generation must "have the courage to project the Jewish experience ... as a guideline - out of being faithful to our own experience and out of responding to our own experience - to have the courage then to speak up with and to the rest of the world." He said that Jews can contribute to the movement a traditional Messianic concept of the struggle between life and death that envisions the triumph of the former, as human beings grow and develop in the image of God.

But he added that Jews can also "offer a note of realism that grows out of the particularity of our own experience." Greenberg suggested that advocates of a nuclear freeze frequently undermine their cause by speaking in sweeping terms that equate the two superpowers and ignore concrete obstacles to nuclear reduction which are posed by the Soviet Union.

"When we call for nuclear disarmament, I think we have to confront honestly the moral achievement of the nuclear balance of terror, and therefore, to make clear to people that we understand and share their legitimate concern that in trying to move away from the precipice, we're not ignoring any of the serious issues that they themselves are oppressed by or disturbed by," Greenberg said. He suggested a buildup of conventional arms "to preserve the balance during the transition." However, most participants supported a bi-lateral nuclear freeze, whatever the tone of the approach.